



NEWS RELEASE

November 7, 2007

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Downtown for the Holidays Schedule Announced

SOUTH BEND, Indiana – The South Bend Parks and Recreation Department invites the community to join us for 19th Annual Downtown for the Holidays December 7-9, 2007. The weekend festivities will begin with the lighting of the city Christmas tree by Santa on Friday, December 7 at the Jon R. Hunt Plaza in front of the Morris Performing Arts Center 5:45 – 6:45 p.m. Enjoy caroling by the children of Starz Academy. The winners of the holiday greeting card contest will also be recognized. Complimentary cookies and hot chocolate will be served. This event is co-sponsored by Gordon's Food Service Marketplace.

The Annual Breakfast with Santa is on Saturday, December 8 at 8:00 a.m. at Newman Recreation Center. A plated breakfast will be served, then visit with Santa and enjoy free face painting, balloon art and entertainment by Jetta and the Jellybeans. Pre-registration is required at O'Brien Recreation Center, 321 E. Walter Street. Registration fee is \$5.00 per person, and will continue until full. This event is co-sponsored by the Knights of Columbus Council #553 and Frick's Dairy Queen.

The popular Tea with Santa will take place Saturday afternoon beginning 12:00 p.m. at the Erskine Park Clubhouse at Erskine Golf Course. Enjoy a light lunch with Santa in the beautiful setting of Erskine Park Clubhouse. Two seatings are available at 12n and 1:15 p.m. Pre-registration is required and the fee is \$5.00 per person.

The Holiday Skating Party will wrap up the weekend on Sunday, December 9 from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Howard Park Ice Rink. Complimentary cookies and hot chocolate will be available and Santa will be there for visits with the children. Pre-registration is not required for this event. Admission fee is 2 pet food items or \$2 per person, to be donated to South Bend Animal Control. Skate rental is available at an additional fee. This event is co-sponsored by Gordon's Food Service Marketplace.

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Each of the Holiday event sites will be collecting canned goods for the St. Vincent DePaul Society. All of these events are provided by the South Bend Parks and Recreation Department.

For more information on Parks & Recreation Department events, facilities, or programs, call (574) 299-4765 or visit www.sbpark.org .

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